

The Honorable Betty McCollum
1714 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative McCollum:

As the national service and advocacy organization for the performing arts industry, with nearly 2,000 members worldwide, the Association of Performing Arts Presenters (APAP) is dedicated to developing and supporting a robust performing arts presenting field and the professionals who work within it.

On behalf of our members, we thank you for sponsoring the *Nonprofit Sector and Community Solutions Act*. Your dedication for over two years in bringing these sector issues to the forefront, and your commitment leading up to the bill establishes you as a champion for so many in our field and as a trendsetter and capacity-builder. As you well know, nonprofits are largely absent today from the federal policymaking process, and few leaders bridge the gap and make a pledge - but you never hesitated to come to the aid and support of the sector.

Our members represent the nation's leading performing arts centers, municipal and university performance facilities, nonprofit performing arts centers, culturally specific organizations, foreign governments, as well as artist agencies, managers, touring companies, and national consulting practices, as well as a growing roster of self-presenting artists - all of whom are dedicated to bringing artists and great performances to communities.

A leader in the field, APAP works to effect change through advocacy, professional development, resource sharing, and civic engagement. We appreciate your recognition of the arts and culture community as an important stakeholder in the ongoing dialogue about essential public service partners.

As an innovator for the nonprofit sector, we applaud your efforts to recognize the intersection between nonprofits and government. APAP members nationwide rely on government resources, just as the government relies on our members to serve the critical needs of communities.

Representative McCollum, your vision, leadership and this groundbreaking legislation herald a new era of inclusion for the nonprofit sector and a strengthened voice for the entire performing arts community. APAP stands ready to work with you on the Nonprofit Sector and Community Solutions Act, helping to make your goal to create more vibrant communities in every state across the country a reality.

Sincerely,

Sandra Gibson
President and CEO